



Docket No.: 203722US6

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9/20/04



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/556,949
Applicants: Yasuo NOMURA, et al.
Filing Date: April 21, 2000
For: APPARATUS, METHOD AND MEDIUM FOR
INFORMATION PROCESSING
Group Art Unit: 2615
Examiner: ONUAKU, C.O.

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MAR 25 2004

Technology Center 2600

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of _____ is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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DOCKET NO: 203722US6



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
YASUO NOMURA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: ONUAKU, C.O.
SERIAL NO: 09/556,949 :
FILED: APRIL 21, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2615
FOR: APPARATUS, METHOD AND :
MEDIUM FOR INFORMATION :
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the Official Action dated February 24, 2004, Applicants in the above-identified patent application provisionally elect Group I, Claims 1-7, drawn to processing apparatus for recording a first picture supplied and for reproducing a second picture recorded.

The Restriction Requirement asserts that the application contains claims to distinct inventions. However, MPEP §803 states the following:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

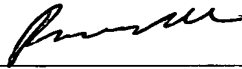
The claims of the present invention would appear to be of an overlapping search area.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully **traverse** the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

However, if the present Restriction Requirement is not withdrawn, examination on the merits of the Claims of Group I is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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